GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:656
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
SIGNING OF EXTRADITION AND MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE TREATIES
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries with whom India has already signed extradition treaties ;

(b) whether mutual legal assistance treaty has also been signed with several countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to sign the above treaties with the rest of the countries as well ; and

(e) if so, the efforts being made in this direction along with the extent to which these treaties have been helpful to India ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E.AHMED)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table on the House.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government of India wants to conclude Extradition Treaties and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties in Criminal Matters with as many countries as possible. In this regard, discussions and negotiation with other countries are ongoing. The Extradition Treaties provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of fugitive criminals from India and vice-versa, and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties provide the frame work to facilitate the widest measure of mutual assistance in the service of summons, execution of warrants and other judicial documents and commissions and to improve the effectiveness of both countries in the suppression of crime.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO PART (A) TO (C) IN REPLY TO LOK-SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 656 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.5.2005 REGARDING SIGNING OF EXTRADITION AND MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE TREATIES.

India has signed Extradition Treaties with 29 countries and since independence, out of which the treaties with 17 countries are in force viz. Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Nepal (old Treaty), Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, UAE, U.K., USA, Uzbekistan, Spain, Turkey and Tunisia. The treaties with Netherlands and Switzerland were signed before independence, and were notified after Independence under Extradition Act, 1962.the treaties with Philippines, Bahrain, Bulgaria, Tajikistan, Mauritius, Ukraine, France, Poland, South Africa, Korea (ROK), Kuwait, Oman have not yet come into force after exchange of the instruments of ratification .India also has reciprocal arrangements with 8 courtiers viz Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sir-Lanka, Sweden, Tanzania and Thailand.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Since independence, India has signed Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties in Criminal Matters with 19 countries out of which Treaties with 12 countries are in force viz., Turkey, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Canada, Kazakhstan, Russia. Uzbekistan, United Arab Emirates, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Monglia and Thailand. France, Kyrghzstan, United States of America, South Africa, Bahrain, Kuwait and South Korea are yet to come into fore.